Rural education cell

1535. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether concerned over the high drop out rate of students in rural schools, which have been facing neglect, besides being deprived of basic amenities and infrastructure, the National Council of Educational Research and Training has decided to constitute a rural education cell;

(b) if so, whether this cell would look into the problems the schools are facing as well as evaluate their performances; and

(c) if so, by when, a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) In order to address the problems of rural schools, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has decided to set up a Rural Education Cell.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The final decision is dependent on the approval by the Programme Advisory Committee of NCERT.

Utilization of unused budgetary allocation for SSA

1536. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether, under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme (SSA), the schools are permitted to utilise unused budgetary allocation of the previous years during the current year;

(b) if so, whether any case has come to the notice of Government where, despite the reservations expressed by a State Project Director, the unused funds of SSA have been channeled to award a procurement contract to a tainted supplier;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the corrective actions taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Programme, funds are sanctioned by the Government of India to State/UT Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programmes as per an approved Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B). In case there are unfinished works at the end of the year, SSA guidelines permit roll over of such activities as spillovers to the subsequent year.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.